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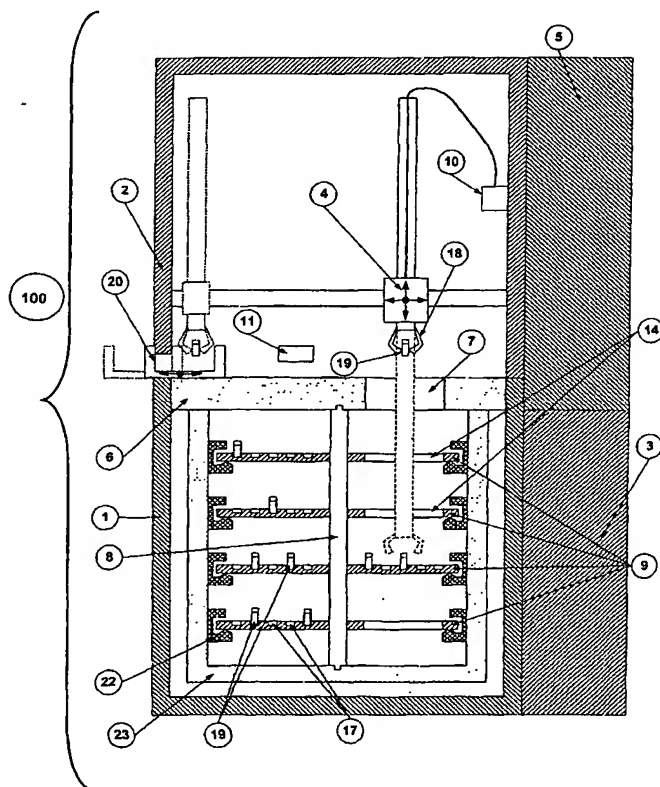
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- (71) Applicant (for all designated States except US): **CRY-OROBOTICS, S.R.L.** [IT/IT]; Via Borgogna, 5, I-20122 Milano (IT).
- (72) Inventors; and
- (73) Inventors/Applicants (for US only): **ANGELANTONI, Gianluigi** [IT/IT]; Angelantoni Industrie S.p.A., Via Vittorio Emanuele II, 11, I-06056 Massa Martana (IT). **DE BLASIO, Pasquale** [IT/IT]; Via Volturmo 80 - Cedri, I-20047 Brugherio (IT). **PEDRAZZINI, Andrea** [IT/IT]; Res. Querce, 822, Milano 2, I-20090 Segrate (IT). **ZENOBI, Mauro** [IT/IT]; Via Monte Amiata, 6, I-06083 Bastia Umbra (IT).
- (74) Agent: **MITTLER, Enrico**; Mittler & C. s.r.l., Viale Lombardia, 20, I-20131 Milano (IT).
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[Continued on next page]

(54) Title: AUTOMATIC SYSTEM FOR CONSERVING SAMPLES AT A CONTROLLED TEMPERATURE



(57) Abstract: An automatic system (100) for conserving samples at a controlled temperature comprising at least one controlled-temperature thermo-insulated conservation chamber (1) with temperature control means (3) containing a set of disks (9) for storing samples (19) and a Cartesian robotic system (4) equipped with pick-up device (18), contained in an upper chamber (2) separated from the chamber (1) by means of an insulating shelf (6), where said Cartesian system (4) through the controlled-access opening (7) moves the samples (19) between the I/O drawer (20) and the above-mentioned set of disks (9). The combined and synchronized movement of the robotic device (4) and of every single disk of the set enables each storage location to be reached. The management of the devices of the automatic system (100) is controlled by an N/C system driven by dedicated management SW.



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According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC

B. FIELDS SEARCHED

Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols)

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Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched

Electronic data base consulted during the International search (name of data base and, where practical, search terms used)

EPO-Internal

C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

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A	column 4, line 40 -column 5, line 29 column 7, line 4 -column 8, line 22 column 10, line 23 - line 44 column 12, line 9 - line 24; figures 1,11,13,14	3
A	WO 98 58216 A (NEW YORK BLOOD CENTER INC ;COELHO PHILIP H (US); WOLF TERRY (US);) 23 December 1998 (1998-12-23) page 6, line 26 -page 9, line 25 page 13, line 5 -page 15, line 26; figures 1-3,15	1,8-15
A	WO 01 54817 A (BIOMERIEUX SA ;WRIGHT AUSTIN (US)) 2 August 2001 (2001-08-02) abstract; figures 16,17	1
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Patent family members are listed in annex.

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Name and mailing address of the ISA

European Patent Office, P.B. 5818 Patentlaan 2
NL - 2280 HV Rijswijk
Tel. (+31-70) 340-2040, Tx. 31 651 epo nl,
Fax: (+31-70) 340-3016

Authorized officer

Jessen, F

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C.(Continuation) DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category *	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
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